

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently Amended) A tack label comprising a label base material, a printing layer formed on a first surface of the label base material, an adhesive layer formed on a second surface which opposes the first surface of the label base material, wherein said adhesive layer comprises a hot water-soluble adhesive which is substantially insoluble in water at a normal temperature and readily soluble in hot water, and a non-adhesive masking layer formed in a central part of the adhesive layer, so that the adhesive layer has a ring-shaped adhesive area, and formed at only a part of an edge of said adhesive area.
  2. (Previously Amended) The tack label according to claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer comprises an acrylic water-soluble adhesive.
  - 3-5. (Canceled)
  6. (Previously Amended) The tack label according to claim 1, wherein a surface area of said masking layer is 5 - 90% of that of said adhesive layer.
  7. (Previously Amended) The tack label according to claim 1, wherein said label base material comprises a material whose specific gravity is less than one.
  8. (Currently Amended) A plastic container with a tack label stuck on a container body, wherein said tack label comprises a label base material, a printing layer formed on a first surface of the label base material, an adhesive layer formed on a second surface which opposes the first surface of the label base material for adhering the tack label on the surface of the container body, said adhesive layer comprises a hot water-soluble adhesive having a property which is substantially insoluble in water at a normal temperature and readily soluble in hot water, whereby said tack label is easy to peel from the container body under an environment with hot water while difficult to peel from a container body under a processing

environment with the normal temperature water and a non-adhesive masking layer formed in a central part of the adhesive layer, so that the adhesive layer has a ring-shaped adhesive area, and formed at only a part of an edge of said adhesive area.

9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Amended) The plastic container according to claim 8, wherein the label base material of said tack label comprises a material whose specific gravity is less than one.

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